



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

MISSIONS

The Land of the Czecho-Slavs— Bohemia

Central Europe is occupying the attention of the world to such an extent today that we believe the following article by Rev. A. W. Clark, D.D., of Prague, which appeared in the *Missionary Herald*, will be of interest to our readers:

The great Bohemian historian, Palacky, said long ago, "We existed before Austria and we shall exist after her." This wonderful prophecy is now fulfilled.

Four years ago I happened to be in Germany when the war broke out. I saw the first regiment start for France. I heard bells of so-called victory ring, and for such victory every house was flagged. A German officer said to me, "This will be a pleasure walk to Paris and we shall be there on Sedan Day, September 2." How little he thought that on Sedan Day, 1918, Professor Masaryk would be welcomed by Secretary Lansing as the leader of the Czecho-Slovak movement.

Bohemia was already old before there was any Rudolf von Hapsburg. In Switzerland, on a rocky bluff, may still be seen the ruins of an old baronial castle called Hapsburg. Albert IV, Count of Hapsburg, occupied this stronghold in 1232. The son of this man became the eminent Rudolf of Hapsburg. He had one redeeming quality: he warred against castles and not against peasant homes. His power grew rapidly, until the Bishop of Basil cried out, "O Lord, take care of your throne or Rudolf will take it." Otto-car, a prominent king of Bohemia, determined to cross swords with the impetuous Rudolf. This was the beginning of the conflict between Teuton and Slav.

It will be remembered that Prague had its university before there was one in Germany. At the head of Prague University was for a time the famous martyr, John Huss. He was a man who loved truth and justice. He saw that the Germans had more influence in the university than belonged to them. His effort to rectify

this caused hundreds of students to return to Germany. So the University of Leipsic came into being. You recall the date, July 6, 1415, when Huss fell. You may have seen the boulder at Constance that marks the place of his burning. Bohemia was furious that her greatest man had been burned at the stake, and the enmity then awakened has never stopped.

Bohemia was first linked to the Hapsburgs in 1526—a fatal mistake. The Thirty Years' War was begun in Prague in 1618. Then came in 1620 the disastrous "Battle of the White Mountain" near Prague. Fearful was the revenge of the Hapsburgs. At the outbreak of the Thirty Years' War, Bohemia had a population of three millions. At its close she had less than one million, and all her independence was gone. In 1781, Joseph II granted a limited toleration; but he attempted to Germanize the Czechs. They, however, always asserted their right to independence and the use of their own language.

During the last century there has been a kind of Bohemian emancipation. Great men have come to the front and awakened in every home the thirst for liberty. Some think that the American Board has helped a little. One million copies of the Scriptures have been circulated here in the last forty years. The first legally organized Y.M.C.A. was introduced into the land of Huss by Americans. This work should now be increased a thousand-fold.

There is no chance in a limited article to describe the energy, the tact, and the faithfulness to his people of Professor Masaryk, who is deservedly at the head of the Czecho-Slovak Republic. His efforts have been crowned with almost overpowering success. We greet the new republic, with its capital on the River Moldau.

Germany in Africa

According to the Blue Book of the British Government which has recently been issued, entitled, "Report on the Natives of South-west Africa, and their treatment by Germany," the population of the colony was

reduced within seven years, i.e., between 1904 and 1911, from 130,000 to 37,742. The figures were taken from the German official returns. Within seven years 92,000 people were either murdered or disappeared. This number included many thousands of women and children who had been outraged and done to death with barbarous tortures. Anyone who regards it as conceivably possible that any part of the continent of Africa should be handed back to Germany, now that the war is over, as a matter of conscientious duty, should study this ghastly document.

Read This to Your Red Cross

The following paragraph appeared in *The Times*, in the form of a letter addressed to the editor; and illustrates the changes which have resulted from the work of missionaries among the Headhunters of Borneo:

In this mail's letters from Borneo I learn from a relative, one of the few white officials in that country, that when the natives last came in for pay from all parts of a widely scattered sector of river and jungle, they voluntarily passed the hat around and collected the equivalent of some three pounds in cents for the Red Cross work "over the big water" of which they had heard, as bush natives do; and that a few days later an aged Dyak chief had come down the river in his dugout, from some day's distance away, with some fresh "paddi," bananas, and two chickens, which he begged the White Man to accept and to send to his white brother who lay wounded and sick beyond the ocean. The fat check of the rich man looks small in comparison with this simple offering of his best at the hands of the jungle man, who has learned to respect his white rulers and scorns the *kultur* and the superman claims of a race who know nothing of straight dealing and honor as these jungle tribes understand them.

Pan-America and the Democratic Spirit

From the *World Outlook* we take the following brief article contributed by Mr. John Barrett of the Pan-American Union:

In discussing the question whether the United States has had real effective influence in creating a more democratic spirit in Latin America, it must first be borne in mind that the countries of Latin America are frequently initiating action and methods of practical democracy that are independent of any example or influence of the United States.

It is a foolish error to assume that the United States alone of the twenty-one American republics has a monopoly in the development of a democratic spirit. There is no doubt that the United States has by its record and achievement been a mighty inspiration and incentive to the other American republics; but the nations of Central and South America are entitled to much credit for what they have done through their own capacity and interest.

There is no doubt that today, as a result of the world-war, the United States is learning more than it ever did before of the resourceful capacity of the Latin-American countries; and, in turn, the peoples of Latin America should realize that the ideals, the purposes, and the hopes of the people of the United States are in harmony with theirs.

In some respects the war has been a blessing in that it has shown to the people of Latin America that the people of the United States are not exclusively commercial, material, and money-loving. They are now grasping the fact that the great republic of the North has aspirations and a devotion to such aspirations which were not believed possible prior to this world-struggle. The messages to Congress and the addresses of President Wilson, who speaks for the people of the United States, have shown to them a new phase of mental attitude in their northern neighbor which they had hardly believed possible before the war. Throughout all of Latin America there is growing a new spirit of appreciation of the United States and its people. It is no longer looked upon as "the Yankee Colossus of the North," intending to extend its dominion over the whole Western Hemisphere. It is no longer commonly described as a country of overwhelmingly selfish ambitions which would disregard the sovereignty and integrity of its sister American republics. . . .

It is an interesting fact that the similar reason for the establishment of the republics of the

Western Hemisphere and the similar purposes of their governments and peoples have been more potent factors in international relationships than the influences of race, language, and religion. The Monroe Doctrine when it was first pronounced expressed in principle equally well the sentiments of every other American Republic. Ever since its declaration nearly a hundred years ago every American Republic, whether in North America or South America, has been striving with greater or less degree of success to prove that a democratic form of government is the only one which could be its permanent government. Whether a statesman, a soldier, or a leader of public opinion has correctly interpreted American democracy upon the plateaus of the Andes, in the valleys of the Amazon and of the Parana, or upon the plains of the United States, he has given expression to sentiments that are common from Canada to Chile, from the United States to Argentina. There has been, therefore, developed throughout Pan-America a common sentiment for democracy which today is a commanding force in the political evolution of mankind.

The Holy Land Today

Writing in *Men and Missions*, the organ of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, Dr. John H. Finley gives his impressions of his recent visit to Palestine which is at present under the administration of the British army. The fine attitude of the British is apparent in their unofficial acts as well as their official ones. They do not refer officially or unofficially to Palestine as a conquered land. It is simply known as "occupied enemy territory." The British

are in command, but the British flag does not float over Palestine. In fact, no flags of any nation appear there. When we Americans held a Fourth of July celebration we were told courteously that we could not run up the Stars and Stripes, and while this may seem extraordinary, I am convinced that the action of the British is the proper thing.

General Sir Edmund Allenby is an extraordinary man, not only a military man, but a student deeply interested in the historic background of the country. Imagine the commander of a great army spending a whole night with an American visitor pouring over the Bible and a standard historical work on the Holy Land, refreshing his mind as to the spots of greatest interest in the region. This is what General Allenby did.

His assistants, the men who are now administering the various districts, are picked from England's best. Most of them are men without military training, but they are just the kind of men I imagine Christendom would like itself to be represented by. The Jerusalem district was under the governorship of Colonel Storrs, son of Dean Storrs, of Rochester Cathedral, and formerly secretary to Earl Kitchener. He speaks Arabic and Hebrew fluently, understands the peculiarity of the natives, and, dressing as they do, seems almost one of them. The Moslems, high and low, appear to trust completely in him, and the most cordial relations exist between him and the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, the head of the Arab Moslems.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Shall Religious Instruction Be Given in the Public Schools?

"Everything is usually very nearly all wrong with the world." This is the consensus of opinion of three different authors, Catholic, Protestant, and secularist, respectively, who for months past have been contributing to an animated discussion in the

Open Court, on the topic of religious instruction in the public schools, which some propose as the remedy of the present evil, while others oppose it on the grounds that such instruction would only aggravate the trouble.

The Catholic point of view.—In an article contributed to the February number of the